

CALVARY CONTENDER ARTICLES

July 1, 1999 (Fundamental Baptist Information Service, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org) - The following information is from the recent issue of the Calvary Contender. Jerry Huffman is the editor of this bi-weekly paper. The full issues are available on the web at <http://home.hiwaay.net/~contendr> --

HARVARD DEAN FIRED OVER PORN - Ron Thiemann, Harvard Divinity School's dean, was forced to resign after pornography was found on his computer (5/24 Christian News). He is on the Evang. Lutheran Church in America's clergy roster, and promotes a theology of pluralism (Calvary Contender, July 1, 1999)

STAR WARS' NEW AGE THEOLOGY - The original Star Trek was mainly a sci-fi space opera, embodying 60s liberalism, but had occasional tributes to Christianity (5/29 World). The new Star Wars film delves deeply into an eclectic theology, "serving up a syncretistic sampling of Christian themes (good vs. evil and ultimate redemption), ancient Eastern philosophy (the all-is-one pantheism of the Force), and New Age human potentiality..." (5/29 Huntsville Times). Its producer, George Lucas, says that all religions are true, though we cannot know who or what God is (Calvary Contender, July 1, 1999).

DELLA REESE'S NEW BOOK DANGEROUS - Della Reese, star of CBS's Touched by an Angel, has a new book titled God Inside of Me which, according to a 5/29 World reviewer, is "confusing," "bears little resemblance to the transcendent God of the Bible.", and: "The characters here may be going to Sunday school, but they are learning New Age lessons." Reese rejects the concept of sin (Calvary Contender, July 1, 1999).

ARMY RECRUITS WITCHES - The U.S. Army has recognized white witchcraft as a religion and has appointed chaplains to oversee pagan ceremonies on at least five bases (5/24 Christian News). The Pentagon believes that at least 100 witches are attending covens at Ft. Hood (Calvary Contender, July 1, 1999).

PRINCETON APPOINTS ANIMAL RIGHTS RADICAL - Princeton University whose faculty once included J. Gresham Machen and Jonathan Edwards has appointed animal rights radical Peter Singer to a chair in bioethics. He says the disabled and unwanted should be killed (see 9/1 CC). To Singer, a newborn has no greater right to life than pigs, cows, and dogs (5/99 Bapt. Banner). Today most educational institutions in the U.S. are anti-Christian (Calvary Contender, July 1, 1999).

GOV. VENTURA IS POOR ROLE MODEL - Minn. Governor Jesse Ventura (real name is James Janos) is a Lutheran Church Missouri Synod church member. In his new "profane" book he brags about losing his virginity at 16, visiting prostitutes, and admits he used marijuana and steroids (5/24 Chr. News). He was recently the only governor to refuse to declare a day of Prayer, but he declared a "Rolling Stones Day." He promises to veto any anti-abortion legislation (5/31 CN). He opposes capital punishment and supports much of the gay rights agenda (Calvary Contender, July 1, 1999).

PCUSA AWARD TO LESBIAN EVANGELIST - The Presbyterian Church (USA) named lesbian evangelist Jane Spahr as a recipient of its Women of Faith award this year. This divorced mother of two was the first openly homosexual person to serve a PCUSA church (4/1/92 CC). She served with a group dedicated to the ordination of homosexual Presbyterians as church officers (5/15 World). The other two women to receive the award were lesbian Yale prof. Letty Russell, and a retired Princeton professor (Calvary Contender, July 1, 1999).

MARILYN MANSON was ordained in the Church of Satan (6/99 NLJ). He wrote in the foreword to the book Satan Speaks that Church of Satan's late founder, Anton LaVey, "was the most righteous man I've ever known." (Calvary Contender, July 1, 1999)

SBC PRESIDENT SPEAKS AT CEDARVILLE - The 6/99 Baptist Bulletin stated: "Paige Patterson, president of the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and the Southern Baptist Convention, gave a chapel message on God's perfect justice and spoke to the board of trustees on April 7. His chapel message on April 8

addressed the roles of women in the church. What meaneth this? Is it just another link in a litany of new-evangelical speakers Cedarville has had for several years? Or was it an exploratory session with the board, portending a possible affiliation of a sort with the SBC, maybe like Dr. Falwell enjoys-especially since the GARBC is to consider (at its June 26-30 meeting) dropping the approval system for agencies and schools such as Cedarville. It could be none or all of the above. Patterson is a scholar and longtime defender of inerrancy, but certainly no separatist. In 1984 he seemed to be willing to settle for an “equity” arrangement with moderates/liberals in the SBC where half of the seminary professors might tell students the Bible has errors and the other half tell them it does not (Calvary Contender, July 1, 1999).

SIGNERS OF ECT ASKED TO REPENT - On the 5th anniversary of the signing of the Evangelicals and Catholics Together accord, Ex-Catholics For Christ (see May-June Proclaiming The Gospel & 9/1/97 CC) in its recent conference called on “evangelical” ECT I and ECT II signers to repent. A statement read: “...The ECT documents are deceitful at best, destructively heretical at worst. They have led multitudes of Christians to believe that there is agreement between the Church of Rome, with its false gospel and the Gospel in which evangelicals have put their trust. [These] documents have introduced much confusion with regard to the simple Gospel message. [They] have done immeasurable harm by hindering the worldwide proclamation of the gospel, especially for evangelical missionaries in Catholic countries. And finally, foundationally, and most critically, the ECT documents deny the biblical Gospel of salvation....” (Calvary Contender, July 1, 1999).

IS YOUR CHURCH A MEMBER OF THE WCC? - The World Council of Churches is a radical, apostate, liberal, ecumenical, and notoriously evil organization of 339 churches, which includes most of the mainline Protestant denominations of our day. The list includes: American Baptist Churches in the USA, United Methodist Church, Episcopal Church, Presbyterian Church (USA), Disciples of Christ, United Church of Christ, United Church of Canada, and the Anglican Church of Canada. If you are a member of any of these, or other NCC/WCC churches, God’s command is clear that you are to separate (2 Cor. 6:14-17, Rev. 18:3) from this ungodly alliance. [A full WCC membership listing is available from: FEA, P.O. Box 6278, Los Osos, CA, 93412. A first-hand report of the WCC’s recent 8th Assembly in Zimbabwe is available from: ACCC, P.O. Box 5455, Bethlehem, PA 18015.] (Calvary Contender, July 1, 1999).

ASBURY BOARD MEMBER SEEKS TO RENEW WCC - Asbury College board member Jan Crouse attended the recent World Council of Churches Jubilee Assembly in Zimbabwe as vice chair for the Proclaim Liberty project to call the WCC away from syncretism and back to biblical orthodoxy (5/24 Christianity Today). She attended the 1998 Re-Imagining conference and said the center of these radical feminists’ ideology is to take over churches. Another women’s group she directs serves as a rallying point “to bring mainline Catholic, Orthodox, and evangelical women together around a model for biblical womanhood that both ‘traditionalists’ and ‘egalitarians’ can affirm” (Calvary Contender, July 1, 1999).

JOHN JACOB’S POWER TEAM IN SBC FORUMS - John Jacobs’ Power Team started over 20 years ago when he was a student at Oral Roberts University. They bend steel bars, break concrete blocks, and do other muscle-flexing stunts (6/20/98 Houston Chronicle). They do anti-drug, self-esteem, evangelistic assemblies. They are featured on the charismatic Trinity Broadcasting Network and in Southern Baptist churches. They are listed in the 5/27 Alabama Baptist to perform at the Aug. 6-7 Youth Evangelism Conference (So. Baptist) in Birmingham, with New Orleans Seminary (SBC) Pres. Dr. Chuck Kelley as keynote speaker, and CCM groups (Calvary Contender, July 1, 1999).

REGENERATING THE NIV - Per the 6/5 World: Two years ago, the International Bible Society and Zondervan blundered by quietly trying to regender (drop words like “man” and “he”) their best-selling New International Version. When World blew the whistle on this “stealth” plan, IBS and Zondervan disavowed their plans. Now, the IBS board says it will “explore its options.” It may now go with two versions: a regendered NIV, that won’t be called that, and also continue with the regular NIV (Calvary Contender, July 1, 1999).